

## **MWR**

MWR activities include arts and crafts facilities, bowling centers, golf courses, libraries, outdoor recreation, recreation centers, youth services activities and recreation membership clubs. In most instances, Guard and Reserve members and their dependents are entitled to use all class "C" facilities on the same basis as active duty personnel. Local installation and facility commanders do have the authority to establish priorities for MWR activities that are high demand and unable to accommodate all who desire to participate. Be sure to call ahead and confirm hours of operation and eligibility for the activity you and your family are interested in.

## **CHILD CARE**

Reservists on active duty or performing inactive duty training are eligible patrons of DoD Child Development Programs (CDP). DoD has child development programs at over 300 locations with approximately 800 child development centers and 9800 family childcare homes. Most of these are located on or near military installations or where there is a significant density of military personnel and eligible civilian DoD personnel. Full day, part day and hourly care is available at these locations. Care is provided to children birth through age twelve. Each installation commander and Defense Agency Director is required to establish a priority system under which access to CDPs shall be determined. The installation commander or Defense Agency Director provides a statement of these priorities available to all eligible patrons seeking enrollment of their children in DoD CDPs.



DoD childcare is not an entitlement. DoD believes childcare is a work force issue, and priority for childcare is given to working families. But even for these families, military childcare is not always available. The demand is high and spaces are limited. If you are in need of assistance with childcare you should contact your command's family support group or family support point of contact for information on the options available for your situation.

## LEGAL ASSISTANCE

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 (SSCRA) was passed by Congress to provide protection to anyone entering or called to active duty in the U. S. Armed Forces. These protections are available to members of the National Guard and Reserve when in active federal service. Protections commence on the date the service member enters active duty.

The SSCRA covers such issues as rental agreements, security deposits, prepaid rent, eviction, installment contracts, credit card interest rates, mortgage interest rates, mortgage foreclosure, civil judicial proceedings, and income tax payments. For example, one of the most widely known benefits under the SSCRA is the



ability to reduce consumer debt and mortgage interest rates to 6% under certain circumstances. If you believe being called to active military service has impacted your ability to meet your obligations, please contact your nearest legal assistance office to see if the SSCRA offers you some protection.

All military services have legal assistance officers available to assist families with legal problems during periods of active duty. Typical legal services involve wills, powers of attorney, child support, income tax returns, and contractual disputes. Although legal assistance officers cannot represent family members in court, they can negotiate on your behalf. Generally, the military services offer limited legal assistance to Guard and Reserve members during inactive duty training periods to prepare legal documents such as wills and powers of attorney needed in the event of an involuntary call to active duty. Each military service has specific regulations regarding the extent of legal assistance they provide. For further information, contact your nearest legal assistance office to determine what assistance is available to you.